

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

July 26, 2005

The Honorable Ted Stevens
Chairman
Committee on Commerce, Science and
Transportation
508 Dirksen Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye
Ranking Member
Committee on Commerce, Science and
Transportation
508 Dirksen Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Stevens and Senator Inouye:

We are pleased that you have held several listening sessions on telecommunications policy and that the Commerce Committee is turning its focus to the need to take a fresh look at the Communications Act. We thank you for your leadership, and we agree that a policy review should be a priority.

As Honorary Chairs of Third Way, a strategic policy center with which we work closely on a variety of issues, we are forwarding to you "*Modernizing Telecommunications Law: Ensuring American Innovation and Economic Opportunity in the Information Age*" [Attached]. This one-page paper states concisely why the 1996 Telecom Act should be refined, the stakes for U.S. economic leadership in the global marketplace, and how consumers benefit from communications innovations in the information age.

Telecom policy is not and should not be a partisan issue. Congress should adopt thoughtful, bipartisan reforms that can spur the U.S. economy and provide economic opportunity and jobs for all Americans in a dramatically changing global marketplace and protect consumers while enhancing consumer choice.

Thank you for your consideration of these principles. Again, we commend you for your leadership on telecommunications issues and look forward to working with you to achieve these vital goals that will benefit all Americans.

Sincerely,





May R. Landis Joe Lint

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Ken Salazar